

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A running support system for a vehicle, comprising:
a first object detecting portion that detects an object near a the vehicle using a radar;

a second object detecting portion that detects ~~an~~ the object near the vehicle by performing image recognition based on an obtained image of an area near the vehicle;
and

a running support portion that supports running of the vehicle,
wherein a control condition for running support control performed by the running support portion is changed on the basis of an evaluation whether the same object has been detected by

(i) only the first object detecting portion,
(ii) only the second object detecting portion, or
(iii) both the first object detecting portion and the second object detecting portion; and

wherein a probability that the object exists is calculated to be the highest when both the first object detecting portion and the second object detecting portion detect the object, the next highest when only one of the first object detecting portion or the second object detecting portion detects the object, and the lowest when neither the first object

detecting portion nor the second object detecting portion detects the object, and the control condition is changed in accordance with the calculated probability.

17. (Previously Presented) The running support system for a vehicle according to claim 16, wherein a starting condition for the running support control performed by the running support portion is shifted to a suppression side in the order of (i) a case where an object has been detected by only the first object detecting portion, and (ii) a case where an object has been detected by only the second object detecting portion, as compared to a case where an object has been detected by both the first object detecting portion and the second object detecting portion.

18. (Previously Presented) A running support system for a vehicle according to claim 16, further comprising an inattentive condition detecting portion that detects whether a driver is performing inattentive driving, wherein a control condition for running support control performed by the running support portion is changed also based on an inattentive condition of the driver detected by the inattentive condition detecting portion.

19. (Previously Presented) The running support system for a vehicle according to claim 18, wherein, when the same obstacle has been detected by both the first object detecting portion and the second object detecting portion, and the inattentive condition detecting portion has determined that the driver is performing inattentive driving, a starting condition for the running support control performed by the running support portion

is shifted to a promotion side, as compared to a case where the driver is not performing inattentive driving.

20. (Previously Presented) The running support system for a vehicle according to claim 19, wherein the running support portion performs at least one of follow-up running control, adaptive cruise control, obstacle alarm control, and collision shock reducing control.

21. (Previously Presented) The running support system for a vehicle according to claim 18, wherein, when an obstacle, which has been detected by the first object detecting portion, cannot be detected by the second object detecting portion, and the inattentive condition detecting portion has determined that the driver is performing inattentive driving, a starting condition for the running support control performed by the running support portion is shifted to a promotion side, as compared to a case where the driver is not performing inattentive driving and the same obstacle has been detected by both the first object detecting portion and the second object detecting portion.

22. (Previously Presented) The running support system for a vehicle according to claim 21, wherein shifting of the starting condition of the running support control, which is performed by the running support portion, to the promotion side is performed by making an amount of shift of a starting condition for running support control, in which there is less necessity for high accuracy in detection of an obstacle in the lateral direction, larger than an amount of shift of a starting condition for running support control,

in which there is greater necessity for high accuracy in detection of an obstacle in the lateral direction.

23. (Previously Presented) The running support system for a vehicle according to claim 18, wherein, when an obstacle, which has been detected by the first object detecting portion, cannot be detected by the second object detecting portion, and the inattentive condition detecting portion has determined that the driver is not performing inattentive driving, from among starting conditions for various types of running support control performed by the running support portion, a starting condition for running support control, in which there is greater necessity for high accuracy in detection of an obstacle in the lateral direction, is shifted to a suppression side.

24. (Previously Presented) The running support system for a vehicle according to claim 22, wherein the running support control, in which there is less necessity for high accuracy in the detection of an obstacle in the lateral direction, is one of follow-up running control and adaptive cruise control, and the running support control, in which there is greater necessity for high accuracy in the detection of an obstacle in the lateral direction, is one of obstacle alarm control and collision shock reducing control.

25. (Previously Presented) The running support system for a vehicle according to claim 23, wherein the running support control, in which there is less necessity for high accuracy in the detection of an obstacle in the lateral direction, is one of follow-up running control and adaptive cruise control, and the running support control, in which there is

greater necessity for high accuracy in the detection of an obstacle in the lateral direction, is one of obstacle alarm control and collision shock reducing control.

26. (Previously Presented) The running support system for a vehicle according to claim 18, wherein the running support portion is one of a follow-up running control device and an adaptive cruise control device, and when an obstacle, which has been detected by the second object detecting portion, has not been detected by the first object detecting portion, one of prohibition and interruption of one of the follow-up running control and the adaptive cruise control is performed.

27. (Previously Presented) The running support system for a vehicle according to claim 18, wherein the running support portion is a collision shock reducing control device, and when an obstacle, which has been detected by the second object detecting portion, has not been detected by the first object detecting portion, start time for collision shock reducing control is retarded as compared to a normal state.

28. (Previously Presented) The running support system for a vehicle according to claim 27, wherein, when the inattentive condition detecting portion has determined that the driver is performing inattentive driving, the start time for the collision shock reducing control is retarded by a smaller amount than that in a case where it has been determined that the driver is not performing inattentive driving.

29. (Currently Amended) The running support system for a vehicle according to claim 18, wherein the running support portion ~~means~~ is a collision shock reducing control device, and when an obstacle, which has been detected by the second object detecting portion, has not been detected by the first object detecting portion, contents of collision shock reducing control are changed to those of control for a case where a shock due to a collision is small as compared to a normal state.

30. (Previously Presented) The running support system for a vehicle according to claim 29, wherein the collision shock reducing control is performed by one of a portion that minimizes an amount of deformation of the vehicle, a portion that secures restraint of a passenger, and a portion that changes a damping force of suspension portion.

31. (Withdrawn) A running support system for a vehicle, comprising:
a control portion that performs one of follow-up running control and adaptive cruise control, and obstacle alarm control, and notification of an operation limit of one of the follow-up running control and the adaptive cruise control before an obstacle alarm is generated by the obstacle alarm control.

32. (Currently Amended) A running support system for a vehicle, comprising:
~~first object detecting means for detecting~~ a radar that detects an object near a the vehicle ~~using a radar;~~

~~second object detecting means for detecting an~~ a camera that detects the object near the vehicle ~~by performing image recognition based on an obtained image of an area near the vehicle;~~ and

~~running support means for supporting a vehicle control system that supports~~ running of the vehicle,

wherein a control condition for running support control performed by the ~~running-support means~~ vehicle control system is changed on the basis of an evaluation whether the same object has been detected by

- (i) only the ~~first object detecting means~~ radar,
- (ii) only the ~~second object detecting means~~ camera, or
- (iii) both the ~~first object detecting means~~ radar and the ~~second object detecting means~~ camera; and

wherein a probability that the object exists is calculated to be the highest when both the radar and the camera detect the object, the next highest when only one of the radar or the camera detects the object, and the lowest when neither the radar nor the camera detects the object, and the control condition is changed in accordance with the calculated probability.

33. (New) A running support system for a vehicle according to claim 16, further comprising an inattentive condition detecting portion that detects whether a driver is driving in an inattentive condition based on detection of an orientation of the driver's face, wherein a control condition for running support control performed by the running support

portion is changed based on the inattentive condition of the driver detected by the inattentive condition detecting portion.

34. (New) A running support system for a vehicle, comprising:
- a first object detecting portion that detects an object near the vehicle using a radar;
 - a second object detecting portion that detects the object near the vehicle by performing image recognition based on an obtained image of an area near the vehicle;
 - a running support portion that supports running of the vehicle; and
 - an inattentive condition detecting portion that detects whether a driver is driving in an inattentive condition based on detection of an orientation of the driver's face;
- wherein a control condition for running support control performed by the running support portion changes based on an evaluation of whether the object is detected by
- (i) only the first object detecting portion,
 - (ii) only the second object detecting portion, or
 - (iii) both the first object detecting portion and the second object detecting portion; and
- wherein the control condition for running support control performed by the running support portion changes based on the inattentive condition of the driver detected by the inattentive condition detecting portion.